

Attorney Docket No. 03462/LH

Express Mail Mailing Label  
No.: EV 339 431 472 US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date of Deposit: July 29, 2003

Applicant(s): K. KUROSAWA

Serial No. :

Filed : Herewith

For : IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS  
WITH A REDUCED TIME  
LAG OF SHUTTER RELEASE

Art Unit :  
Examiner :

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Asst. Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
Barbara Villani

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the heading at page 7, line 1 with the following:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 4-5 with the following:

--FIGS. 2A and 2B illustrate image pickup processes of the digital camera corresponding to operation of its shutter key; and

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 6-7 with the following:

--FIG. 3A and 3B illustrate image pickup processes corresponding to operation of a shutter key of a prior-art general digital still camera.--